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FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7941
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 9092
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 8607
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC 3038

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 000091

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STATE INR/R/MR; IIP/R/MR; WHA/PD

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TAGS: [KMDR](#) [OPRC](#) [OIIP](#) [ETRD](#) [BR](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: WESTERN HEMISPHERE: CUBA; SAO PAULO

"Nothing New In Havana"

Center-right national circulation daily O Estado de S. Paulo (2/26) editorialized: "The consolidation of the Cuban gerontocracy evidences that the only thing that the Castro brothers have really to offer is more of the same thing. The only suffering that ended for Cubans is that of having to hear Fidel Castro's four-hour speeches.... As long as Fidel is alive and can exert tutelage over the regime, Cuba will perpetuate his catastrophic legacy.... Decades of misery, fear and hopelessness have transformed one of the world's most exuberant populations into a worn out society. Neither in the Soviet Russia nor in Mao's China had apathy reached comparable levels. The Cubans are living in a political and economic hibernation from which they will not get out of soon. The people's indifference in view of Sunday's tragicomedy in Havana summarizes the five decades of insanity of the 'irreplaceable' Fidel Castro." White